

2012 Gray Wolf Hunting and Trapping Seasons and General Rules

General Rules

Wolf Harvest Limits: Harvest limits are established for some management zones. The wolf season in those zones will close immediately when the wolf harvest limit has been met.

To report a wolf harvest, call: 1-855-648-5558.

To find out which hunt zones are closed, call: 1-855-648-5558, or visit <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/public/hunt/?getPage=266>.

For more specific information about the number of wolves harvested and reported for each management zone, call an Idaho Fish and Game regional office, headquarters in Boise, or go to the Fish and Game website at: <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/public/hunt/?getPage=266>.

Evidence of Sex: Must be left attached to the hide of any wolf taken. External evidence of sex (scrotum, penis, or testicles for males, or vulva for females) must be left naturally attached to the hide until the mandatory check requirement has been satisfied. Either sex may be taken.

Tags: No person may take more wolves than the number for which he or she possesses legal tags. **Attention: The number of tags available for use are not the same throughout the state and are different for hunting and trapping. Hunters may purchase up to five gray wolf tags per calendar year. Certified wolf trappers may purchase up to five gray wolf trapping tags per trapping season.** Tags must be validated and securely attached immediately upon killing a wolf.

Big Game Feeding Sites: It is unlawful to hunt, trap or pursue wolves within one-half mile of any active Idaho Fish and Game big game feeding site.

Weapons Restrictions: Same as for other big game animals, see page 76.

Electronic Calls: Electronic calls may be used to attract wolves for the purpose of harvest.

Telemetry: It is unlawful to take wolves with the aid of radio-telemetry.

Dogs: Use of dogs to attract or pursue wolves is prohibited.

Retrieving Meat: Hunters and trappers are not required to retrieve meat from a harvested wolf. For tips on skinning a wolf, contact a regional Fish and Game office.

Wolves with Radio Collars: Idaho Fish and Game uses radio collars to monitor wolf activity, assess population status and help determine future hunting opportunity. Though it is legal to do so, Fish and Game encourages hunters to avoid harvesting radio-collared wolves. Hunters and trappers are required to return any radio collars when they check in their wolves.

Mandatory Report and Check: Hunters and trappers must report killing a wolf **within 72 hours by calling the Wolf Reporting Number at 1-855-648-5558**. They must also within 10 days of the date of kill, present the skull and hide to a Fish and Game regional office or conservation officer for removal and retention of a premolar tooth and to have the hide tagged with an official state export tag. To have a raw wolf hide in their possession without an official export tag attached, a person must have a fur buyer or taxidermist license or appropriate import documentation, except during the open season and for 10 days after the close of the season.

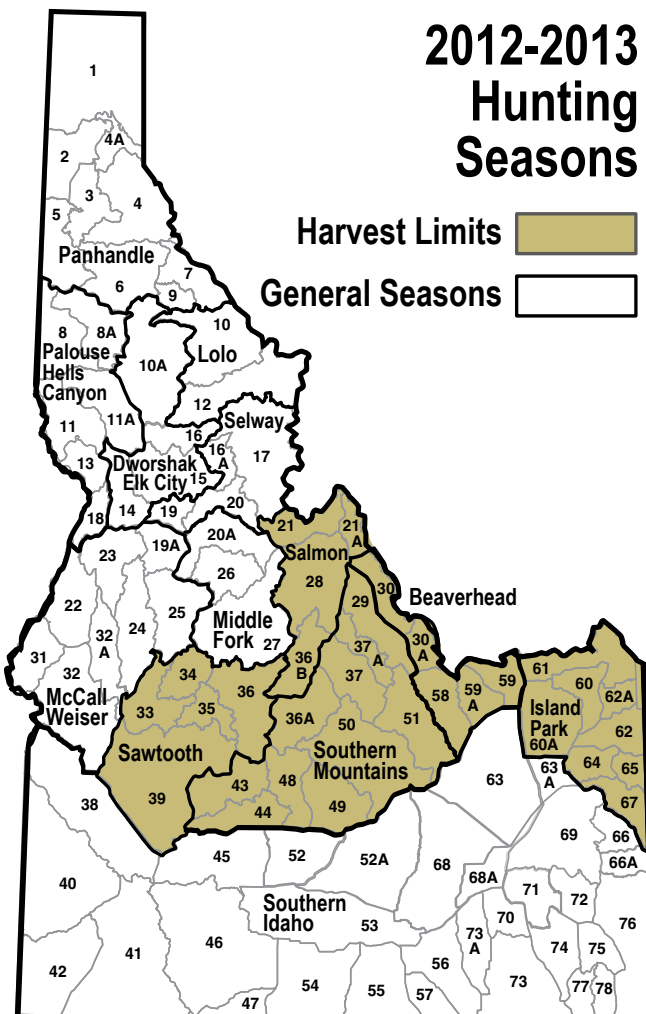
A trapper or hunter may authorize another person to comply with the mandatory report, provided that person has enough information to accurately complete the necessary form. Proxy required, see page 78.

Please thaw your wolf hide and skull before bringing it in for tagging.

Wolf Hunting Rules

Wolf Tags: Hunters may buy up to five gray wolf tags per calendar year. **Attention: The number of tags available for use are not the same throughout the state.**

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continued . . .

• No more than two gray wolf hunting tags may be used in the following zones: Salmon, McCall Weiser, Sawtooth, Southern Mountains, Beaverhead, Island Park and Southern Idaho.

• No more than five gray wolf hunting tags may be used in the following zones: Panhandle, Palouse-Hells Canyon, Lolo, Dworshak-Elk City, Selway and Middle Fork.

Tags must be validated and securely attached immediately upon killing a wolf.

Bait: Baiting or hunting big game over bait is illegal, except for black bears. Wolves may be taken incidentally to bear baiting. It is unlawful to hunt wolves within 200 yards of the perimeter of any designated dump or sanitary landfill.

Wolf Trapping Rules

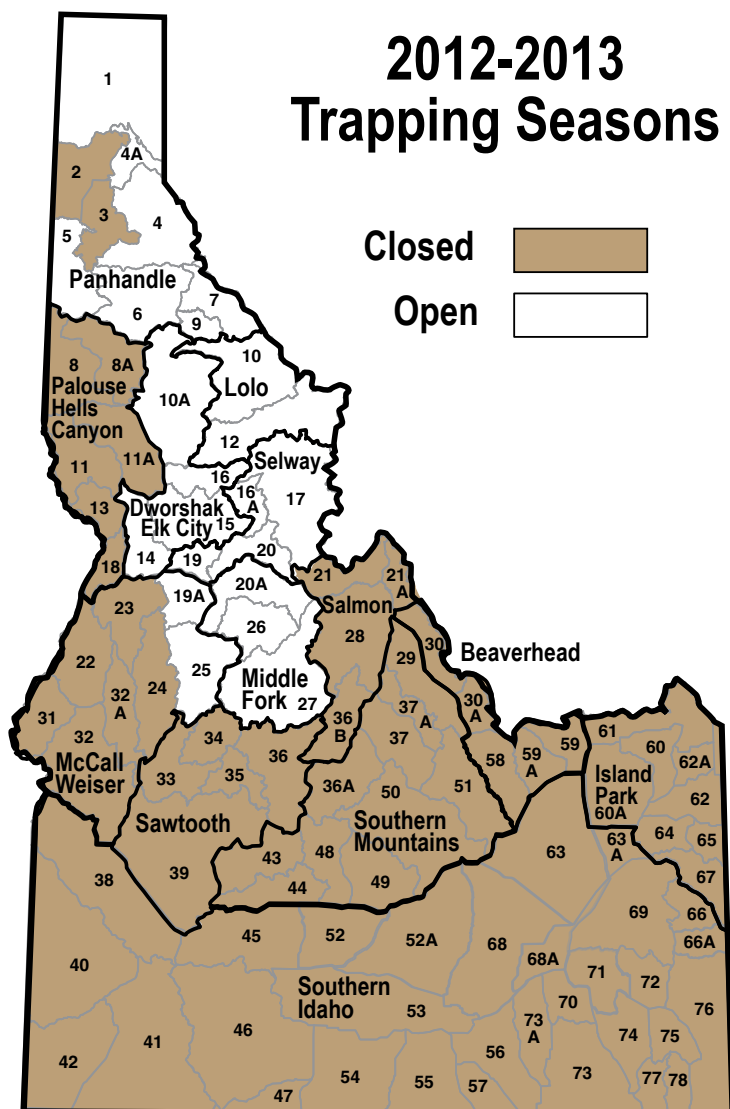
A person must have a trapping license and attend a wolf trapping class before purchasing tags for wolf trapping. Wolf trapping classes will be offered in all regions. Dates and times will be posted on the Fish and Game website: <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/public/hunt/?getPage=266>.

Trappers must check traps at least every 72 hours, same as for furbearer trapping.

Wolf Tags: Trappers may buy up to five gray wolf trapping tags per trapping season for use in those zones with an open trapping season. **Attention: The number of trapping tags available for use are not the same throughout the state.**

• No more than three gray wolf trapping tags may be used in the McCall-Weiser zone.

• No more than five gray wolf trapping tags may be used in the following zones: Panhandle, Lolo, Dworshak-Elk City, Selway and Middle Fork.



In addition to the gray wolf trapping tags, certified wolf trappers may use wolf hunting tags, in zones in which both the hunting and trapping seasons are open at the same time. All hunting and trapping seasons and tag limits apply.

Methods of Take: Snares, with diverters and a break-away device or stop within the loop, and foothold traps with a jaw spread not to exceed nine inches are legal during wolf trapping season.

Bait: It is unlawful to use any part of a domestic or wild origin game bird, big game, upland game, game fish or protected nongame wildlife, or to use live animals as bait or an attractant; to use any set within 30 feet of any visible bait, except it is legal to trap wolves beyond 30 feet of a naturally killed big game species as long as the carcass is left undisturbed. It is unlawful to use a dirt hole set with bait unless the bait remains covered at all times to protect raptors and other meat-eating birds from being caught accidentally, or to trap wolves within 200 yards of the perimeter of any designated dump or sanitary landfill.

For additional trapping rules, see pages 41-43 of the Upland Game, Furbearer & Turkey rules.

Wolf Hunting Seasons 2012-2013

Zone (Hunting Units)	Season Dates	Harvest Limit	Notes
Panhandle (1, 2, 3, 4, 4A, 5, 6, 7, 9)	Aug 30 - Mar 31		5 wolf hunting tags may be used
	July 1 - Mar 31		5 wolf hunting tags may be used, <i>Private land only</i>
Palouse-Hells Canyon (8, 8A, 11, 11A, 13, 18)	Aug 30 - Mar 31		5 wolf hunting tags may be used
Lolo (10, 12)	Aug 30 - June 30		5 wolf hunting tags may be used
Dworshak-Elk City (10A, 14, 15, 16)	Aug 30 - Mar 31		5 wolf hunting tags may be used
Selway (16A, 17, 19, 20)	Aug 30 - June 30		5 wolf hunting tags may be used
Middle Fork (20A, 26, 27)	Aug 30 - Mar 31		5 wolf hunting tags may be used
Salmon (21, 21A, 28, 36B)	Aug 30 - Mar 31	40	2 wolf hunting tags may be used
McCall-Weiser (19A, 22, 23, 24, 25, 31, 32, 32A)	Aug 30 - Mar 31		2 wolf hunting tags may be used, <i>See notes 1 & 2, Page 68, Motorized Hunting Rule Applies in Units 32 & 32A, See Page 79</i>
Sawtooth (33, 34, 35, 36, 39)	Aug 30 - Mar 31	60	2 wolf hunting tags may be used, <i>See note 1, Page 68</i>
Southern Mountains (29, 36A, 37, 37A, 43, 44, 48, 49, 50, 51)	Aug 30 - Mar 31	40	2 wolf hunting tags may be used, <i>See notes 1 & 2, Page 68, Motorized Hunting Rule Applies in Units 29, 36A, 37, 37A, 49, 50 & 51, See Page 79</i>
Beaverhead (30, 30A, 58, 59, 59A)	Aug 30 -Jan 31	10	2 wolf hunting tags may be used, <i>See notes 1 & 2, Page 68, Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79</i>
Island Park (60, 60A, 61, 62, 62A, 64, 65, 67)	Aug 30 - Jan 31	30	2 wolf hunting tags may be used, <i>See note 1, Page 68</i>
Southern Idaho (38, 40, 41, 42, 45, 46, 47, 52, 52A, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 63, 63A, 66, 66A, 68, 68A, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 73A, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78)	Aug 30 - Mar 31		2 wolf hunting tags may be used, <i>See note 2, Page 68, Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, 45, 47, 52, 53, 56, 66, 66A, 69, 70, 72, 73, 75, 76, 77 & 78, See Page 79</i>

Notes:

- The hunting season in these zone(s) will remain open until the harvest limit is reached, or the hunting season ends, whichever comes first.
- Motorized vehicle use as an aid to hunting for gray wolves is restricted **August 30 through December 31** to established roadways open to motorized vehicle traffic capable of travel by full-sized automobiles - any motorized vehicle with a gross vehicle weight of 1,500 pounds. See page 79.

Reminder - hunting tags are valid for a calendar year.

Hunter Tips to Avoid Conflicts with Carnivores

A few precautions can help avoid conflicts with wolves and other large carnivores:

- After a big game animal is harvested, it is wise to retrieve and quarter the carcass immediately.
- If it must be left in the woods overnight, hang the meat if possible, or skin it and cover it with a tarp or plastic and leave articles of clothing at the site.
- When a carcass is retrieved, hang it between two trees, preferably 10 feet off the ground to keep animals from reaching it.
- Hang meat away from camp and stock so that if a large carnivore comes to investigate the scent, it does not scare stock.
- Hound hunters should look for recent wolf sign before turning dogs out on a bear or lion track.
- To prevent conflicts between hounds and wolves, some hound experts recommend that dogs be kept on a leash while tracking until the track gets fresh.
- Hounds should not be allowed to keep an animal treed for very long, as the sound of the hounds may attract wolves.

Wolf Trapping Seasons 2012-2013

Zone (Hunting Units)	Season Dates	Notes
Panhandle (1, 2, 3, 4, 4A, 5, 6, 7, 9)	Nov 15 - Mar 31	5 wolf trapping tags may be used, Trapping Open in Units 1, 4, 4A, 5, 6, 7, & 9. Units 2 and 3 Closed . See note 1, Page 69
Palouse-Hells Canyon (8, 8A, 11, 11A, 13, 18)	Closed	
Lolo (10, 12)	Nov 15 - Mar 31	5 wolf trapping tags may be used, See note 1, Page 69
Dworshak-Elk City (10A, 14, 15, 16)	Feb 1 - Mar 31	5 wolf trapping tags may be used, Trapping Open in Unit 10A only , See note 1, Page 69
	Nov 15 - Mar 31	5 wolf trapping tags may be used, Trapping Open in Units 14, 15, 16 only , See note 1, Page 69
Selway (16A, 17, 19, 20)	Nov 15 - Mar 31	5 wolf trapping tags may be used, See note 1, Page 69
Middle Fork (20A, 26, 27)	Nov 15 - Mar 31	5 wolf trapping tags may be used, See note 1, Page 69
Salmon (21, 21A, 28, 36B)	Closed	
McCall-Weiser (19A, 22, 23, 24, 25, 31, 32, 32A)	Nov 15 - Mar 15	3 wolf trapping tags may be used, Trapping Open in Units 19A & 25 only See note 1, Page 69
Sawtooth (33, 34, 35, 36, 39)	Closed	
Southern Mountains (29, 36A, 37, 37A, 43, 44, 48, 49, 50, 51)	Closed	
Beaverhead (30, 30A, 58, 59, 59A)	Closed	
Island Park (60, 60A, 61, 62, 62A, 64, 65, 67)	Closed	
Southern Idaho (38, 40, 41, 42, 45, 46, 47, 52, 52A, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 63, 63A, 66, 66A, 68, 68A, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 73A, 74, 75, 76, 77, & 78)	Closed	

Note:

1. Certified wolf trappers may use wolf hunting tags, in zones in which both the hunting and trapping seasons are open at the same time. All hunting and trapping seasons and tag limits apply. Reminder - hunting tags are valid for a calendar year. Trapping tags are valid for the trapping season.

To find out whether a wolf zone is closed, call **1-855-648-5558**.

Within 72 hours of harvesting a wolf, hunters and trappers must report it at **1-855-648-5558**.

Hunters and trappers must present hide and skull to a Fish and Game regional office within 10 days.

Wolves and other canids are known carriers of a parasitic tapeworm that is linked to hydatid disease in humans. Hunters are encouraged to wear rubber gloves when skinning canids and avoid handling canid feces.

WANTED: ALIVE!

Your Photos of Wolverines and Fishers

Fish & Game is looking for wolverines and fishers throughout Idaho. If you see a wolverine or fisher, or if you use a trail camera and capture images of either of these animals, Fish and Game wants to hear from you!

Descriptions

Wolverine:

32 to 52 inches long;
18 to 40 pounds;
Dark brown fur;
Two pale stripes extend
from neck to base of tail;
White or orange patches often
found on throat or chest



Fisher:

30 to 47 inches long;
4 to 12 pounds;
Brownish-black fur;
Small white patches
on chest and belly

Report sightings to <https://fishandgame.idaho.gov/ifwis/observations/>



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You can also join online at www.ifwf.org



Photo courtesy of Terry Thomas

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**Weekend of August 24, 2012
Riverside Hotel, Boise, ID**



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- Learn about challenges facing Idaho's wildlife
- Find common ground and shared interests with other wildlife enthusiasts
- Help Fish & Game stay responsive to changing needs and interests.

You do not need to be in Boise to participate!

The Summit will be live-streamed over the internet and Fish & Game plans to use technology at their offices throughout the state to provide opportunities to participate and interact.

To Learn More:
<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov>
and click on Summit logo



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